April 18, 1751. THE Numb. 16.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

With the freſheſt Advices, Foreign and Domeſtic.

MEDITATIONS on human Life.

THIS Life is but a Penelope's Web, in which we are always doing and undoing: A Sea that lies open to all Winds, which ſometimes within, and ſometimes without, never ceaſe to blow violently upon us: A weary Journey thro' extreme Heats and Cold, over high Mountains, ſteep Rocks, dangerous Deſarts. And, thus we paſs our Time away in weaving at this Web, in rowing at this Oar, and in paſſing this miſerable Way.—What then is there in Life, my Soul! that thou ſhouldſt ſo much deſire it?—Nay, what Evil is there not in Life?

There is no Period of it exempt from Miſery. We enter it in Tears: We paſs through it in Sweat and Toil, and many Afflictions: We end it always in Sorrow. Great and little, rich and poor, not one in the whole World can plead immunity from this Condition.

Man, in this Point, is worſe than all other Creatures: He is born unable to ſupport himſelf; neither receiving in his firſt Years any Pleaſure, nor giving to others any Thing but Trouble, and before the Age of Diſcretion paſſing infinite Dangers. Only herein he is leſs unhappy than in other Ages, becauſe in this he has no Senſe nor Apprehenſion of his Miſery. And, can we think there is any ſo void of Reaſon, that, if it were granted to him to live always a Child, would make Choice of ſuch a Life? So then it is evident, That not ſimply to live is deſirable; but to live well and happy ſhould be the Object of all our Endeavours, and of all our Inventions.

Does the Child eſcape all thoſe Dangers incident to that Stage of Life, and grow up? His Troubles likewiſe grow up with him. He is tranſferred from the Nurſe to the Subjection of the School-maſter, and then, if no Rudies, miſerable with repining; and, if he plays, it is never but with Fear.—This whole Age, while he is under the Charge of another, is ſuch to him as nothing better than a Priſon: And therefore he longs for, and calls after the Age in which, freed from the Tutelage of another, he may become Maſter of himſelf; puſhing Time forward, as it were with his Shoulder, that he may the ſooner enjoy his hoped for Liberty. In ſhort, he deſires nothing more than to ſee the End of this Age, which he looks upon as Bondage and Slavery, and to enjoy upon the Beginning of his Youth. And what is the Beginning of Youth, but the Death of Infancy? And the Beginning of Manhood, but the Death of Youth? Or, what is the Beginning of To-morrow, but the Death of the preſent Day?—Therefore ſuch a one implicitly deſires his Death, and judges his Life miſerable; and cannot be reputed in a State of Happineſs or Contentment.

We will now ſuppoſe our Youth at Liberty, in that Age he ſo much pined after, wherein he has his Choice to take the Way of Virtue or of Vice, and either to chuſe Reaſon or Paſſion for his Guide. His Paſſion entertains him with a thouſand Delights, prepares for him a thouſand Baits, and preſents him with a thouſand worldly Pleaſures to ſurpriſe him: Vicious and polluted Pleaſures, which ever held him in a reſtleſs Fever: Pleaſures, that at laſt end in Repentance, and like Sweetmeats are of a bad Digeſtion: Pleaſures that are bought with Pain, and in a Moment periſh, but leave behind a laſting Guilt, and long Remorſe of Conſcience. I will not mention the Miſchiefs, Quarrels, Debates, Wounds, Murders, Baniſhments, Sickneſs, and other Dangers, whereunto ſometimes the Incontinency, and ſometimes the Inſolency of this ill-guided Age does plunge Men. Behold then the Life of a young Man, who, rid of the Government of his Parents and Maſters, abandons himſelf to all the Exorbitance of his unruly Paſſion; which, like an unclean Spirit poſſeſſing him, throws him ſometimes into the Water, and then into the Fire; ſometimes carries him clear over a Rock, and at other Times flings him headlong to the Bottom.

And, even if he follows Reaſon for his Guide, he muſt meet with wonderful Difficulties: For he muſt reſolve to fight in every Part of the Field, and at every Step to be in Conflict, as having the Enemy in Front, in Flank, and in the Rear, continually aſſailing him: And this Enemy is all that can delight him, all that he ſees near, or far off. This is no leſs than the World itſelf, our greateſt Enemy, and muſt therefore be overcome.

But, beſides the World, he has a thouſand treacherous Enemies within him, amongſt whom his Paſſion is none of the leaſt; which waits for an Occaſion to ſurpriſe him, and betray him to his Luſt. It is God only, that can make him chuſe the Path of Virtue: And it is God only, that can keep him in it to the End, and make him victorious in all his Combats. But, alas! how few they are that enter into it, and of thoſe few, how many that retire again! So that let a Man follow the one Way or the other, he muſt either ſubject himſelf to a tyrannical Paſſion, or undertake a weary and continual Combat; wilfully throw himſelf into the Arms of Deſtruction, or fetter himſelf, as it were, in the Stocks; eaſily carried away with the Current of the Water, or painfully ſtemming the impetuous Tide.

Behold then the Happineſs of a young Man! who, in his Youth, having ſtunk his full Draught of the World's vain and deceivable Pleaſures, is overtaken by them with ſuch a dull Heavineſs and Aſtoniſhment, as Drunkards feel on the Morrow after a Debauch, or Glutton after a plentiful Feaſt; who are ſo overpreſſed with the Exceſſes of the former Day, that the very Remembrance of it creates a Loathing. And even he that has made the ſtouteſt Reſiſtance, feels himſelf ſo weary, and ſo bruiſed and broken with this continual Conflict, that he is either upon the Point to yield, or to die.—Yet, this is all the Good, all the Contentment of this flouriſhing Age, by Children ſo earneſtly deſired, and by thoſe, who have experienced it, ſo heartily lamented.

Should he arrive to the State of what is called perfect Age, in which Men have no other Thoughts but to purchaſe to themſelves Wiſdom and Reſt; he will even then find, that it is herein only perfect, becauſe all Imperfections of human Nature, hidden before under the Simplicity of Childhood, or the Lightneſs of Youth, appear at this Age in Perfection, ſpeaking even of thoſe that are eſteemed the wiſeſt and moſt happy, in the Opinion of the World; who are continually purſued by, and ſacrifice their Reſt, Quiet, and Time to Avarice and Ambition, as I will ſhew you more at large, on ſome other Occaſion.

However, every Man promiſes himſelf great Contentment in old Age; hopes then to repoſe himſelf without further Care, and to keep himſelf at Eaſe in Health; but ſuch a one too often deceives himſelf. In old Age there is nothing but an after Taſte of all the foregoing Evils; and moſt commonly a plentiful Harveſt of all ſuch Vices, as, in the whole Courſe of their Life, hath held and poſſeſſed them. For here you have the Imbecility and Weakneſs of Infancy, and (which is worſe) many Times accompanied with Authority: You are paid for the Exceſs and Riot of your Youth, with Gouts, Palſies, and ſuch like Diſeaſes, which take from you Limb after Limb with Pain and Torment: Here you are recompenſed for the Anxieties of Mind, the Watchings and Cares of Manhood, with Loſs of Sight, Loſs of Hearing, and of all the Senſes, one after another, except only the Senſe of Pain. Death ſeizes on every Part, to make ſure of us; as a Bailiff does of a bad Pay-maſter, that forfeits his Day of Payment. Here is nothing in us, which is not viſibly declining, except our Vices, and they not only live, but in Deſpite of Nature grow young again. The covetous Man hath one Foot in the Grave, and yet is burying his Money, as if he had Hopes to find it again another Day.—The Ambitious, in his Will, provides for a pompous Funeral, making his Vice to triumph, even after his Death. The Child wiſhes for Youth; and the old Man laments it; the young Man lives in Hope of the future, and this feels the Evil preſents, laments the falſe Pleaſures paſt, and ſees for the Time to come nothing to hope for: And the old Man is more fooliſh than the Child, in bewailing the Time he cannot recal, and remembers not the Evil that he ſuffered in it; and more wretched than the young Man, in that, after a vicious Life, and not being able any longer to live, he muſt miſerably die, ſeeing nothing round about him, but Matter of Deſpair.

I ſhall not trouble you with a long Roll of thoſe almoſt infinite Evils, wherewith Men in all Ages are afflicted, as Loſs of Friends and Parents, Baniſhments, Exiles, Diſgraces, and other Accidents, common and ordinary in the World; one complaining of loſing his Children, another of having them; one lamenting for his Wife's Death, another for her Life: One finding Fault that he is too high in Court, and others more often, that they are not high enough. The World is full of Evils, ſo that it would require a World of Time to write them in. And, if the moſt happy Man in the World ſhould ſet his Felicities againſt each other, he would ſee Cauſe enough to pronounce himſelf unhappy: Yet, perhaps, he might be accounted happy by ſome other Man; who, perhaps, if he had been but three Days in Poſſeſſion of his reputed happy State, would be glad to yield it up to him that ſhould come next. And he that ſhall conſider, in all the Goods that ever he hath had, the Evils he hath ſuffered to get them, and, having got them, to retain and keep them, (I ſpeak of Pleaſures that may be kept, and not of thoſe that wither in a Moment) he will ſoon confeſs, that keeping itſelf of the greateſt Felicity in this World is full of Unhappineſs and Infelicity.

Therefore we may conclude, That Childhood is but a fooliſh Simplicity; Youth a vain Heat; Manhood, a painful Carefulneſs; and old Age, an uneaſy Languiſhing: That our Plays are but Tears; our Pleaſures, Fevers of the Mind; our Goods, Racks and Torments; our Honours, gilded Vanities; our Reſt, Inquietude: That paſſing from Age to Age is but paſſing from Evil to Evil, and from the leſs unto the greater; and that always it is but one Wave driving on another, until we be driven into the Port or Haven of Death.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

MR. [illegible]'s Account of his Eſcape from the Inquiſition brought to my Mind what I had read of the Tyranny of *Lewis* XIV to his Proteſtant Subjects.

The Writer, after mentioning ſeveral Cruelties ſays, "What Wrong had theſe People done the King? had they not always been faithful to him? That was not their Crime; for it muſt be acknowledged, to the Shame of the Catholick Religion, while the greater Part of us ſided with the Prince in the late civil War, [illegible] to the King; and it was to them only that the [illegible] which made them criminal was the [illegible]

Obedience to his imperious Commands in turning Catholicks; tho' they humbly and dutifully remonſtrated to him, that they ſhould act againſt their Conſciences, if they abandoned the Doctrines of their Reformation. But the King was abſolute, and would not be denied; and, becauſe they refuſed him immediate Obedience, his Fury kindled againſt them; ſo that neither Age, nor Sex, nor Merit, nor Quality, eſcaped it: He let looſe his Dragoons upon them; he ſet up Villains and Robbers to be their Converters; and, like another Mahomet, he made Uſe of Fire and Sword to force them to receive his Doctrine.

With what Colours ſhall I draw the hideous Picture of theſe abominable Converſions, at which even the holy See trembled, and which have drawn ſo many Tears from the Eyes of all real Catholicks? This implacable Prince no ſooner heard that his Proteſtant Subjects had declared they would die in their Religion, becauſe they believed it to be the Truth, and that, excepting in that ſingle Point, they were ready to ſacrifice their Lives for his Honour, than he thundered out his Orders for his butcherly Converters to pour into all the Provinces, and force the Conſciences of thoſe innocent People at all Events. His Orders were attended with a Declaration, that he was reſolved to have his Pleaſure put in Execution whatever it coſt him; and that his Converters ſhould ſtand indemnified for all Barbarities whatever they ſhould commit in enforcing Obedience to his Commands.

Thus animated, theſe infernal Legions haſtened to execute the bloody Mandate of their cruel Monarch: Nor was there any Sort of Inhumanity they did not practiſe. The Oppoſitions and Violences of theſe lewd Converters, and the unheard-of Torments which they invented to preach up the King's Religion, would ſwell up into many bulky Volumes. On their entering a City, ſome ſeized upon the Gates and all the Avenues, while others beat about the Streets to ſeize upon Fugitives, and force them to attend to the Documents of theſe abominable Apoſtles. They were quartered at Diſcretion, by Order of the Intendants of the Provinces, and ſometimes of the Biſhops themſelves, to the Shame of the Epiſcopal Dignity; and they no ſooner entered into a Houſe, but they filled it with horrible Cries, accompanied with a thouſand Blaſphemies. They appeared like ſo many Devils let looſe and broke out of Hell, to make War upon Mankind. Neither Tears or Submiſſion could move them: They hanged both Men and Women by the Feet or Hair of their Head to the Ceiling, or on Hooks in the Chimnies. They plunged them into Wells or Sloughs full of Mud and Filth. They half-roaſted and baſted their naked Limbs with melted Greaſe. They thruſt red-hot Coals into the Palms of their Hands, then cloſed them by Force. They poured Wine into their Bodies with Funnels: They blew them up with Bellows 'til their Bellies burſt. They tore the Hair from their Chins and Head, and their Nails from their Fingers and Toes. They ſtripped them naked, and, after they had offered them a thouſand Indignities, they ſtuck Pins into them from Head to Foot. They pinched and gaſhed their Skins with a Penknife, and ſometimes with red-hot Pincers nipped the Fleſh from their Arms, or elſe took them by the Noſes and led them from Room to Room.

Modeſty will not permit me to tell the Ignominies the Women were conſtrained to undergo. They raviſhed ſeveral, and ſome in the Preſence of their Huſbands and Fathers, whom they had tied to the Bed-poſts. 'Tis impoſſible to recount the various Torments which thoſe infernal Miſcreants invented to plant the Catholick Faith in the Hearts of the King's Subjects. They committed thoſe Cruelties, which, perhaps, the Devils themſelves would not have thought of; and when they obſerved, that thoſe whom they ſo tormented, endured all, they bethought themſelves at length how to make them mad, by hindering them from Sleep for whole Weeks together. Rich and poor, Men and Women, young and old, ſick and ſound, all without Diſtinction, deeply experienced their Barbarity; while the King and his Confeſſor laughed at theſe Inhumanities, which drew ſo much Blood and ſuch Showers of Tears from thoſe religious People, who however ſupported themſelves with a wonderful Conſtancy of Mind; and then it was that the frantick Monarch filled all the Cloiſters, Dungeons, and Gallies, with an infinite Number of theſe miſerable People; who, in Regard to the good Services they had done him, were worthy of a better Reward. Thus France was a Theatre full of Dread and Horror; the Hangman at Work at all Hours; and they that died in Contempt of the King's Orders, were dragged along the Streets as a Spectacle to the People, and then thrown into the common Sewers.

PARIS, December 4.

LETTERS from Lyons adviſe, that there has been arreſted there a certain Adventurer, who pretends to be a Prince of the Blood of France. He is ordered to be brought to the Baſtile.

Utrecht, Dec. 11. We have Advice from Dantzick, that a Perſon of that City, after a cloſe Application of ten Years, has found out a perpetual Motion, which, if ingeniouſly applied, may ſerve as a Foundation for the Diſcovery of the Longitude.

Paris A-la-main, Dec. 11. His Majeſty being deſirous of acknowledging the great Services of the late Count de Saxe, and honouring the Memory of ſo great a General, has reſolv'd to cauſe a Triumphal Column to be erected to it; but the Place where 'tis to be put is not yet fix'd upon.

Count de Saxe has given to the Count de Frize, beſides his Regiment of Ulhans, his large Diamond of the Order of the White Eagle, valued at 60,000 Livres, and every Thing that he has at Chambord, which is ſaid to be worth 400,000 Livres more, there being 700 fine Horſes. Count de Bellegarde is made Reſiduary Legatee, and Count de Pioline, Executor, to whom he has given his Picture ſet with Diamonds. He has given 100,000 Livres to the Marquis de Sourdis, and has left Legacies to all his Domeſticks proportionable to their Rank.

LONDON,

Dec. 4. They write from Glaſgow, that laſt Week a very uncommon Robbery happened there: A certain Shopkeeper, without his Partner's Knowledge, in the Night-time carried off all his Goods; and next Day, by the Common Crier, offered a Reward of 10l. to any who ſhould diſcover the Thief, which a Soldier (who had ſeen him carrying off the Goods) hearing, informed the Magiſtrates, who committed him to Goal, where he now lies.

An Extract of a Letter from a foreign Miniſter at the Hague, dated Nov. 30.

Our laſt Advices from Paris informs us, that the Return of the Marquis de Valori from Berlin, but laſt from Hanover, furniſhes the Politicians there with freſh Matter for Reflections upon the Affairs which were treated of at Hanover, and to extend their Conjectures farther than they have hitherto done, in relation to the Alliances which the King of Great Britain has entered into, during his Stay in Germany, with ſeveral Princes of the Empire, and the Pains which his Majeſty has taken, in order to procure the Houſe of Auſtria a Party, whoſe Power ſhould be ſuperior to that of the French and their Allies in the Empire. The Miniſters of the Court of France have been greatly embarraſſed with theſe Alliances. They have racked their Brains to find out proper Means to prevent the Effects of the Negotiations of his Britannic Majeſty; but all Attempts which they have hitherto made in this Reſpect, have proved abortive, and come to nothing; they have therefore found it neceſſary to have Recourſe to other Expedients, and are, it is ſaid, now putting one in Practice, which is for them to do the ſame Thing as his Britannic Majeſty has done, by engaging ſome foreign Princes in their Intereſt which were not in it before. The French flatter themſelves that this Scheme will ſucced to their Wiſhes. They however imagine, that if theſe Alliances be not equal in Number and Strength to thoſe entred into by Great Britain and Holland, the formidable Forces by Sea as well as Land which their Kingdom is capable of furniſhing, will amply ſupply any Deficiency.

An Extract of a Letter from a Miniſter at the Hague, Dec. 2.

"The laſt Letters we have receiv'd from Dreſden adviſe, that the Credit of the Steur is in a fair Way of being ſoon re-eſtabliſhed, ſince it is aſſured, that the Government of Hanover will advance that of Saxony, upon good Security, at Three per Cent. a Sum ſufficient to anſwer the Neceſſities of the latter. This Readineſs in the Government of Hanover to aſſiſt the Court of Dreſden is look'd upon as the Effect of the good Diſpoſitions which the King of Poland ſhews to ſupport the common Cauſe, though his Poliſh Majeſty has not yet openly declared himſelf in Regard to the Election of a King of the Romans in Favour of the Archduke Joſeph, and that there is yet no Treaty of Subſidy concluded between his Poliſh Majeſty and the Maritime Powers, as has been reported.

Our laſt Advices here from Paris aſſure us, that the Court of France is ſo little diſpoſed to leſſen the publick Taxes, that the Miniſtry have Thoughts of impoſing freſh ones, and it is ſaid poſitively, that ſome Edicts will ſhortly appear for that Purpoſe. In the mean Time great Pains are taken by the Miniſters about ſome other extraordinary Meaſures for augmenting the Revenue, and re-eſtabliſhing the Finances by conſtituting new Poſts and Employments; in ſhort they borrow Money upon Intereſt, and the Farmers-General are obliged to furniſh the King with conſiderable Sums. Theſe Circumſtances put together, occaſion Reflections to be made by the Politicians here, who loſe themſelves in the Conjectures which they are inceſſantly making upon this Subject. They cannot perſuade themſelves that the French Court has any Views for ſuddenly entering again into a War; and, on the other Hand, they cannot comprehend what ſhould be its Motive for amaſſing ſuch large Sums in a Time of profound Peace, and which, ſay they, according to all human Probability, will be of a long Duration. An Author, who has lately wrote upon the Affairs of the French Nation, ſays, that its Revenue for fifteen Years paſt has not exceeded 100 Millions of Livres, *communibus Annis*, and that even this Revenue has by the late War and Failure of Commerce been greatly leſſened. Suppoſing this to be Fact, it is not to be wondered at that the French Miniſters are buſy in re-eſtabliſhing the Finances, which were at the Expiration of the War in ſo ruinous a Condition: But then there is little Occaſion to be terrified with the Threats of that Court, ſince it is certain that the Houſe of Auſtria is in a much better Condition, with the Aid of its Allies, to ſupport a new War, than France in Concert with her Allies."

An Extract of a Letter from a Magiſtrate of Amſterdam, Dec. 11.

"Several Letters which have been receiv'd here from divers Places, have mention'd a Reſolution ſaid to be taken by the Cardinal Infant of Spain to quit the Eccleſiaſtical State as a Thing very certain. There are People, however, who pretend to be very much in the Secret of Affairs, who ſay, that every Thing which has been hitherto publiſh'd thereupon, has, they imagine, been only founded upon Conjectures; and they are the rather induced to believe this, as they have Correſpondents at the Courts of Spain, France, and Rome, and none of them ſay, that any Thing of this Nature is upon the Carpet. On the contrary, they produce Letters, wrote by Perſons in high Office in thoſe Courts, which intimate that theſe Conjectures, they ſuppoſe, have been ſpread abroad by News-Writers copying one another. Many People, nevertheleſs, ſtill believe that ſomething of this Kind is in Agitation, or that the Reports relating thereto, that have ſo long been current, would have been poſitively contradicted by the Court of Spain, ſeeing that has been done by it in Matters of leſs Moment."

WILLIAMSBURG, April 18.

The Berry, Belcher, and Elizabeth, Purden, are ſafe arriv'd at London, and the Cumberland, Jackſon, at Briſtol.

The Grymes, Wilcox; Anna, Robinſon; and Hatley, Hill; were expected to ſail for Virginia the laſt of February.

Low Jackſon, from Nanſemond County, (whoſe Ingenuity has occaſion'd ſo great a Diſturbance in this Colony) was brought before the General Court on Tueſday laſt, and indicted for forging and counterfeiting Spaniſh Double-Doubleloons; and after a long Trial, his Jury brought him in Guilty.

John Hill, alias Seale, from Southampton County, for Horſe-ſtealing, was found Guilty. This is the fourth Time he has appear'd before the General Court, and was once condemn'd, but afterwards receiv'd a Pardon; and is the ſame Fellow who got out of Norfolk Priſon ſome Time ago, robb'd a Store, and return'd into Priſon again to prevent Suſpicion.

Joſeph Markham, from Northumberland, for ſtealing Tobacco, found Guilty; and John Boah, for a Miſdemeanour in receiving the ſaid Tobacco, was fin'd Forty Shillings, and ordered to be impriſoned Six Months.

John Birk, from King George, for ſtealing 300 weight of Tobacco, found Guilty.

John Aſhwell, from Eſſex, for ſtealing Wigs, &c. Guilty.

Thomas Smith, from Northumberland, was convicted of the Manſlaughter of Robert Knowles.

William Manſfee, from Spotſylvania was indicted for Manſlaughter, but acquitted.

Thomas

Thomas Alley, from York, for Felony, acquitted.

The Trial of George Carr, from Nanſemond, for the Murder of Samuel Milner, is continued to October.

On Tueſday laſt one Tedd, a Butcher, being in a Public Houſe, in this City, and ſeemingly in good Health, was ſuddenly taken with a Fit, fell out of his Chair, and died inſtantly.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

Pleaſe to give the following Queſtion in Surveying a place in the *Gazette*: As I expect the ingenious Artiſt, who undertakes to anſwer it, will give an analytical Inveſtigation; ſo I hope you will find Room for it. By this you will oblige, at leaſt, one of your conſtant Readers.

W.

Surry, April 10, 1751.

THERE is a Field in the Form of the right-lin'd Triangle A, B, C; within which is a Garden of the ſame Figure; at each Angle of this Garden, *viz.* at D, E and F is a Tree, as alſo at G and H, the Middles of the two Sides A C and B C. It was obſerv'd, that the Trees at G, F and E were in a direct Line with the Angle B, as were thoſe at H, E and D with the Angle A; the Angle C, and the Trees at F and D were likewiſe in a ſtreight Line meeting the Side A B at right Angles. The Sides of the Garden were meaſured, and were thus, E F — 1 Chain, 86 Links. D E — 2 Chains, 22 Links, D F — 2 Chain, 55 Links. The Sides of the Field A B, B C and C A are requir'd.

Williamſburg, April 15, 1751.

SIR,

You are deſired by ſome of your Subſcribers to inſert the following in your Papers.

Fabricando, Fabri Sumus.

THE ancient and loyal Society of free and accepted Maſons, made a Figure in this City ſome Time ago, like a Meteor, whoſe exquiſite Brightneſs portended a happy Influence; but, laviſh of its Fires, was ſoon extinguiſh'd: So the Society was too ſoon diſperſed, and no more Lodges held, of Gentlemen of the ſtricteſt Honour and Probity, who were initiated therein; whoſe Act of Benevolence, perform'd to a Perſon, (tho' not their Brother) ſhew'd their inimitable Goodneſs and Compaſſion to thoſe in Diſtreſs. It is to be hoped, That Men of theſe Principles will not obliterate from their Minds the Practice of aſſociating, in the moſt ancient Confraternity in the Univerſe, which has been traditionally handed down to Poſterity theſe ſeveral thouſand Years; and its Dignity is now ſupported by the greateſt Monarchs on Earth, and was always obſerv'd as the moſt inviolable Secret ever introduced among Men.

I hope the following Ode will not be diſagreeable to your Readers.

An ODE.

I.

EXALTED Muſe, in myſtic Lays,
Of ancient Maſons, ſing the Praiſe.
Where ſocial Love, and Concord, join'd
To all the Virtues of the Mind,
Unite in mutual Secreſy,
To ſhew the Sweets of Maſonry.

II.

When fruitful Nature did produce
All Creatures, fit for human Uſe;
Then Man, the nobleſt Fabrick rais'd;
The Work th'Almighty Builder pleas'd:
Five Orders in his Form agree,
To ſhew the Power of Maſonry.

III.

When Thoughts profound, of Wiſdom's Light,
Did our great Anceſtors excite,
The glorious Temple firſt to frame,
To celebrate JEHOVAH's Name:
Then Heav'n inſpired Men did agree
To join in Confraternity.

IV.

The ancient Secret ſilent reſts
In the Receſſes of our Breaſts:
Not Words, or Time, ſhall ever ſhew
What none but Heav'n, and Maſons know.
Then Brothers, let our Harmony
Diſplay the Sweets of Maſonry.

I am, Sir,

Your humble Servant,

N. S.

VERSES *wrote by a Gentleman juſt before his going to* Priſon, *on ſeeing his Child aſleep in its Cradle.*

SOFT Babe! ſweet Image of a harmleſs Mind!
How calm that Sleep, which Innocence enjoys.
The ſmiling Cheek thou in thy Slumber wear'ſt,
Is Nature's Language for a gentle Heart;
It ſays, all's Peace within: It is thy Right;
'Tis the bleſt Priv'lege of thy tender Age
To wake, or ſleep in Peace; to know no Fears,
To dread no Ill, to ſmile on Friend and Foe.
What moral Leſſon does thy Slumber teach?
This Preaching ſtrikes, and mends a faulty Heart,
Come here, ye Guilty; for it ſpeaks to you;
Tells what you loſt, and what you'll ne'er regain:
Where dwells the Pow'r a wounded Mind to heal;
Attend, ye Miſers; all your Wealth can't bribe
This Slumber to your Bed: Unbrib'd it drops
The downy Wing upon this Infant-Brow.
Liſten, ye Heroes, Kings, or higher Names,
(If ſuch there be) can Minds with coolеſt Thought
To Murder train'd, ſuch peaceful Hours taſte?
Sleep like that Babe, and I'll unſheath my Sword.
Could gazing catch that Look of cordial Peace,
My ardent Eye I'd fix to pluck it thence,
And plant it in my Breaſt. — In vain that Thought:
Heaven this Bliſs to ſinful Man denies;
'Tis Virtue's Crown; and ev'n an Angel's Wealth.
Sleep on, mild Infant; Sleep, and never know
What thy fond Parent feels; now feels for thee,
Though thou feel'ſt nothing. — May kind Heaven grant
Thou never wake again: How ſweet to paſs
From Earth to Heaven on ſo ſoft a Wing!
Thoſe Looks would fix a Smile on Death's pale Cheek.
I muſt away; relentleſs Law compels;
I'll take thee too: Thou in a Cell can'ſt ſleep,
And play within the Horrors of a Jail.
Thy Father ſleeps no more. What then I'll watch
Thy ſleeping Hours; and when thou ſmil'ſt, I'll ſmile,
Smile ev'n in Miſery; wipe my ſtreaming Eye,
Then ſmile again: Will Law forbid me this?
Thy Mother in her peaceful Tomb is laid;
Silent her Griefs, which fretted Life away.
At Sight of thee her tender Heart would bleed;
It bled for other's Woes; for thine 'twould ſtream.
In happy Time her Soul to him is fled,
Whoſe Blood for thoſe, who Mercy lov'd was ſpilt,
Thou know'ſt, my God, by thy great Patern taught,
I never turn'd my Eye, nor ſhut my Heart
From any Wretch that walk'd this Earth in Pain.
When thy rich Bleſſings on my Head were pour'd,
Thou ledſt my Heart (ſince Goodneſs comes from thee)
To ſeek out Miſery in her baſhful Path,
And to my utmoſt every Wound to heal.
My Faith is firm; in this thy trying Hand
My Hope breathes freſh. Some virtuous Mind thou'lt touch,
(Though few below thy glorious Image wear,
To Riot moſt, or Vanity enſlaved)
Then guide him to my Cell: My Chains he'll break,
And Light to me, and to this Babe reſtore.

G. R.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

To be SOLD, for ready Money,

(Purſuant to the Will of ALEXANDER SPOTSWOOD, Eſq; *dec'd.)*

SEVERAL Thouſand Acres of valuable Land, lying in Gloucester County, in ſuch Quantities as ſhall be agreed on. Attendance will be given at the Courthouſe of the ſaid County, from the 10th to the 20th of June next.

J. [illegible]

To be SOLD by the Subſcriber, at his Store in WILLIAMSBURG,

COFFEE and Chocolate, fine Lemmons, Anchovies, Capers, Olives, Olive Oil, Sweetmeats, candied Ginger, Raiſins, Currants, Figs, Muſkle Mangoes and Pickles, Cheeſe, Red Port, Mountain Wine, and White Wine Vinegar.

I [illegible]

New-Kent, near the Brick-Houſe, April 17, 1751.

RAN away from a Flat at *Cruickſhank's* Warehouſe, on the 3d Inſtant, a Mulatto Man, named *Joſeph Adams*, or *Evans*; he is about 5 Feet 7 or 8 Inches high, remarkably thick about the Small of his Legs, both his little Fingers very crooked. 'Tis ſuppos'd he will ſoon be lurking about *Williamsburg*, where are ſome of his former Acquaintance, who were imported in the *Queenborough*, laſt Year.

Whoever apprehends him, ſo that I may have him again, ſhall have a Piſtole Reward.

Hannah Gilmore.

STRAY'D from the Subſcriber in *Amelia* County, near the Court-Houſe, on the 11th of *March* laſt, a light grey Horſe; he paces very well and ſoft, and is branded on the off Buttock H F, the F cut in the Hair. Whoever brings him to me, ſhall have Two Piſtoles Reward.

Henry Farley.

ALL Perſons who have any Claim againſt the Eſtate of Mr. *Durham Hall*, late of the Borough of *Norfolk*, deceas'd, are forthwith deſired to ſend in their Accounts, properly atteſted, to his Executors, *Robert Tucker* and *Chriſtopher Perkins*, of the ſaid Borough; and thoſe that are indebted to the ſaid Eſtate, are deſired by them, to make ſpeedy Payment. Attendance will be given, at *Williamsburg*, during the General Court.

A Tract of Land, about 300 Acres, lying in *Lunenburg* County, belonging to the ſaid Eſtate, will be ſold at publick Sale, on *Wedneſday* the 24th Inſtant, at Mr. *Kelly Wetherburn's* Door, in *Williamsburg*, where the particular Bounds, &c. of the ſaid Land will then be produced.

Alſo to be freighted upon moderate Terms, to any of the *Weſt-India* Iſlands, or elſewhere, the Sloop *Harry*, belonging to the ſaid Eſtate, now lying at *Norfolk*, ready to proceed upon any Voyage that may offer.

Robert Tucker,
Chriſtopher Perkins, } Executors.

Williamsburg, April 18, 1751.

THE Subſcriber, lately arriv'd from *London*, performs all Sorts of Landſkape, Heraldry, and Houſe Painting, in the beſt and exacteſt Manner, at reaſonable Rates. Whoever are pleas'd to employ me, ſhall be faithfully ſerv'd, by

Their humble Servant,

John Keiff.

N. B. Enquire for me at Mr. *Galt's*, Watchmaker, or at Mr. *Cavendiſh's*, Taylor, in *Williamsburg*.

RAN away from the Subſcriber's Plantation, in *Prince-George* County, in *December* laſt, a Servant Man, named *Ralph Edward Rider*, a Gardner by Trade, and lately belonged to Col. *Nathaniel Harriſon*, of *Brandon*; he is a well-ſet, ſmooth-faced Fellow, about five Feet five Inches high; has an inſinuating, fawning Way of expreſſing himſelf, and is much addicted to Lying; an *Engliſhman* born, and pretends to be a Roman Catholick; had on when he went away, a brownish coloured Coat with Metal Buttons, a Hat, and a brown bob Wig, but ſometimes went without a Wig, having ſhort fair Hair; had with him both white and check'd Shirts; and is ſuppos'd to be gone to the *Northward*, having been ſeen in *New-Kent* County ſome Time after his Elopement.

Whoever takes up and conveys him to me, ſhall have Five Piſtoles Reward, beſides what the Law allows.

John Hood.

To

To be SOLD, at Williamsburg, *on the 25th of* April, *for ready Money,*

A TRACT of Land, in *Albemarle* County, containing by Eſtimation 1165 Acres. Any Perſon inclinable to know further may apply to Col. *John Chiſwell.*

April 13, 1751.

CAME to the Subſcriber's Plantation, near *Hampton*, about three Weeks ago, a bright Bay Mare, with a hanging Mane, and ſhort Switch Tail, trots and gallops, marked on the near Buttock O, The Owner proving his Property and paying Charges may have her again of

Booth Armiſtead.

April 10, 1751.

THE Veſtry of *Southwark* Pariſh, in the County of *Surry*, having come to a Reſolution to build a large Brick Church in the lower Part of the ſaid Pariſh, where the old Church now ſtands. Notice is hereby given to all Undertakers, that it will be let on the 28th Day of *May* next, if fair, if not, the next fair Day at the ſaid Place. The Plans of the ſaid Building may be ſeen by applying to *William Salter*, Clerk of the ſaid Veſtry, living near the ſaid Church.

Benjamin Cocke, } Churchwardens.
William Short, }

Littlepage's, April 15, 1751.

RAN away, laſt Night, from the Ship *Prince William*, *William Smith*, Commander, a Sailor, named *David Caldwell*, a ſhort ſet Fellow, of a thin ſwarthy Complection, Black Hair and Eye-brows, ſomewhat Bow-legged, about 24 Years of Age, and ſpeaks broad *Scotch*. Whoever takes up and conveys him to me, at *Littlepage's*, on *Pamunkey* River, where the ſaid Ship now lies, ſhall have a Piſtole Reward, beſides what the Law allows.

William Smith.

April 15, 1751.

STRAY'D from the Subſcriber, in *York*, a dark Bay Horſe, with a bob Tail, a white ſpot under one Eye, in about 4 Years old, and ſuppoſ'd to be gone towards Col. *Chiſwell's*, as I loſt him from thence. Whoever brings the ſaid Horſe to me, in *York* Town, or to Doctor *Hay*, in *Williamſburg*, ſhall have half a Piſtole Reward.

Mary Lightfoot.

April 10, 1751.

AS the Hon. LEWIS BURWELL, Eſq; Preſident of this Colony, hath been pleaſed to impower me to ſettle his Accounts, I do therefore give Notice to all Naval Officers, County Court Clerks, and others, who are indebted to him as Preſident, that I ſhall attend in the City of *Williamſburg*, during the General Court's ſitting, inorder to ſettle his Duer down the 23th Day of October to the 27th of this inſtant.

Robert Carter Nicholas.

[illegible], to all Perſons who have Accounts standing on our Books [illegible] that are have impowered Mr. *Peter Randolph*, Attorney at Law, to [illegible]ediately reguish all our Debtors, to Caſe they do not apply to him, and [illegible] Accounts, or give Bond and Security for ſo doing; and his Receipts [illegible] as ſufficient, as from their

Humble Servants,

M. Booth, and Company.

[illegible] Advertiſement, I do hereby give Notice, that I ſhall conſider [illegible] the Time of the General Court, and that I ſhall be ready at [illegible] Court, to receive whatever Debts are due to *Mr. Mordecai*

Robert Carter Nicholas.

Williamſburg, April 15, 1751.

[illegible] at the Court Houſe in *Williamſburg*, will be a Ball for [illegible] Gentlemen and Ladies. Tickets to be had of *Mrs. Anne* [illegible] *Williamſburg*, at Half a Piſtole each.

[illegible] Piſtoles will be run for, at *Fredericksburg*, the ſecond Day of [illegible] each Horſe carrying 140 *lb.* Weight, 4 Miles at a Heat. Thoſe [illegible] their Horſes, muſt enter them with the Subſcriber, Six Days

C. Colſon.

To be LETT or SOLD,

[illegible] all convenient Out-Houſes, Eight Lots of Ground belong[illegible] which the Subſcriber now liveth; alſo Six other Lots contiguous, [illegible] the Church, belonging to the Houſe in the City of *Williamſ*[illegible] Acres moſt of it Woodland about a Mile diſtant; [illegible] ſold, at a reaſonable Time of Payment.

Thomas Jones.

Juſt imported from LONDON,

A CHOICE Parcel of ſtay Goods; With which Ladies, and others, may depend [illegible] being faithfully and ſpeedily ſerved, after the neateſt Manner at moderate [illegible]

Their very humble Servant,

Williamſburg, April 1, 1751. *John Clark.*

RAN away from the Subſcriber, in *Charles-City* County, a Negroe Fellow, about 5 [illegible] 8 Inches high, is *Virginia*-born, ſpeaks ſlow, and is very crafty; he has been [illegible] four Months, the greateſt Part of which Time he was in *Surry*, but is gone [illegible] thence. Whoever brings the ſaid Negroe to me, at *Berkley*, ſhall have Five Piſtoles Reward if taken in this Country, and Eight if in *Carolina*.

Benjamin Harriſon.

To be SOLD, reaſonably,

A TRACT of Land wherein the Subſcriber now lives, in *King William* County, containing 2100 Acres, having two Plantations, well fenc'd, and ſufficient at leaſt to work 25 Negroes, with ſeveral new Tobacco Houſes and Negroe Quarters. On the Part whereon I live are all neceſſary Houſes, and a very large new paled Garden for a Family, alſo a commodious Dwelling-Houſe, underpinn'd with Brick unfiniſh'd; the ſaid Land is very convenient to Churches, Mills, Court-Houſe, and Warehouſes. Any Perſon inclinable to purchaſe, may know the Terms by applying to

April 1, 1752. *Philip Buckner.*

April 17, 1752.

To be SOLD,

SEVEN Hundred and Eighty Acres of Land in *Amelia* County, near *Namozine*, well wooded and watered; convenient to Church and Mill, about 25 Miles from *Bolling's* Point, with good Improvements, Houſes and Orchard, good Springs, and a pleaſant Situation.

William Tiſdale.

April 18, 1751.

RAN away, on the 27th of *March* laſt, from *Thomas Williamſon*, in *Southampton* County, an indented Servant Man, named *Stephen Ford*, a Houſe-Carpenter and Joiner by Trade, an *Engliſhman* born, about 45 Years of Age; he is about 5 Feet 8 Inches high, of a dark Complection and thin Viſage, ſtoops in his Shoulders, has a Scar on one of his Hands or Wriſt; he is remarkable for hard Drinking and Swearing; had on when he went away, an old Silk Coat of a light Colour, a Fearſkin Jacket, Leather Breeches, a Check or Garlix Shirt, a Felt Hat, blue Yarn or brown Worſted Stockings, and *Virginia*-made Shoes; alſo took with him ſome few other Cloaths, &c.

Whoever apprehends and conveys him to the aboveſaid *Thomas Williamſon*, or to the Subſcriber, living near *Southampton* Court-houſe, ſhall have Two Piſtoles Reward, beſides what the Law allows.

James Jordan Scott.

Williamſburg, April 13, 1752.

AS I do not think my Fortune conſiderable enough to carry on Merchandizing, or for my Family to ſubſiſt independently upon; I ſhould be glad to engage with any Gentleman who could employ me with the Proſpect of a mutual Benefit. And, although my Family will continue in *Williamſburg*, my being placed in a remote Situation will be no Objection: Or, if it ſuited the Intereſt of my Employer, I ſhould not ſcruple going to *England* or the *Weſt-Indies*. I will deceive no Body in undertaking a Thing beyond my Ability; and, in what I do undertake, I'll promiſe Sobriety and diligent Attendance. As for my Fidelity, (if conſiderable Truſt is requiſite) I'll give all the Security my Circumſtances will admit of.

Daniel Fiſher.

N. B. Such Perſons as have taſted and approved my Bohea Tea, may be aſſured of being ſtill ſerved with the very ſame Sort, at the uſual Price of Six Shillings a Pound.

ON *Tueſday* the 7th Day of *May* next, will be ſold, at *Auction*, for ready Money, at my Houſe in *King William* County, about 25 young *Virginia*-born Slaves, belonging to

Philip Buckner.

JAMES WILSON, *Stay-Maker, In* WILLIAMSBURG,

HAVING a freſh Aſſortment of Goods, will ſpeedily and faithfully [illegible] Gentlemen and Ladies who will favour him with their Commands.

N. B. I beg the Favour of all Perſons who are indebted to me, to bring or ſend their reſpective Ballances, the better to enable me to carry on my Buſineſs, and diſcharge my Debts.

James Wilſon.

Prince George County, *April* 4, 1752.

RAN away from *Hampton*, on *Tueſday* Night the 2d Inſtant, an *Iriſh* Convict Man, (belonging to the Subſcriber) named *James Keys*, alias *Murphy*, a Joiner by Trade, he is a ſtender-made, ſmooth fac'd Fellow, with a down Look, above 5 Feet 5 Inches high, talks with the *Iriſh* Accent very much; had on when he went away a blue Broad-Cloth Frock, with Metal Buttons, a green Silk Waiſtcoat, with Gold Buttons and Vellum Holes; he had both white and check'd Shirts, Thread and Worſted Stockings, a Hat, and a dark bob Wig; and is ſuppoſed to be gone to *North-Carolina*.

Whoever takes up and conveys him to *Mr. James Graham*, in *Hampton*, or to me, in *Prince George* County, ſhall have Two Piſtoles Reward if taken in *Virginia*, and Four Piſtoles if taken in *Maryland* or *Carolina*, beſides what the Law allows.

Charles Keiſer.

Juſt IMPORTED, in the Everton, *Capt.* Kelly, *from* Liverpool.

A CHOICE Parcel of Hair and Wigs, and will be made up at *William Parks's* Shop, in *York* Town, after the neweſt and neateſt Faſhion. Gentlemen that pleaſe to favour me with their Orders, may depend on being kindly and expeditiouſly ſerved, at the aforeſaid Shop, the Buſineſs being carried on in his Abſence by

Abigail Parks.

ON *Saturday* the 20th of *April* will be SOLD, to the higheſt Bidder, for ready Money, a Sloop, with her Apparel, lying on *Wormley's* Creek, near *York* Town.

Richard Hubley,
Thomas Roberts.

April 1, 1751.

RAN away from the Subſcriber, living in *Glocester* County, a likely young Negroe Woman, named *Kitty*, about 20 Years of Age; ſhe formerly was a Servant in the Governor's Family, and is ſuppoſed to be about *Williamſburg*. Whoever apprehends and conveys the ſaid Servant to me, ſhall have Two Piſtoles Reward, beſides what the Law allows.

t f *Warner Lewis.*

TO be SOLD, the Houſe and Land whereon Col. *John Martin* Lately liv'd, in *Caroline* County, containing about 2700 Acres. Any Perſon inclinable to purchaſe, may apply to the Subſcribers, in *King William* County.

t. f.

N. B. There are Plantations, &c. on the Land. *John Martin,*
Samuel Martin.

To be SOLD, at the PRINTING-OFFICE,

A SHORT and plain Inſtruction for the better underſtanding of the LORD's SUPPER. With the neceſſary Preparation requir'd: For the Benefit of Young Communicants, and of ſuch as have not well conſider'd this Holy Ordinance. To which is annex'd, the Office of the Holy Communion: With proper Helps and Directions, for joining in every Part thereof with Underſtanding and Benefit. By the Right Reverend Father in GOD, THOMAS Lord Biſhop of *Sodor* and *Man*. The fifth Edition, with Additions, and Corrected throughout.

STRAY'D from *Williamſburg*, about the latter End of *February*, a middle-ſiz'd, ſprightly, dark Grey Horſe, branded on one of his Buttocks with a Croſs; has a Wall Eye, trots and gallops hard, and paces ſlow. Whoever will bring him to me in *Williamſburg*, or inform me where he may be had, ſhall receive Half a Piſtole Reward.

William Hunter.

WILLIAMSBURG: Printed by WILLIAM HUNTER, at the POST-OFFICE; by whom Perſons may be ſupplied with this Paper. Advertiſements of a moderate Length are inſerted for Three Shillings the firſt Week, and Two Shillings each Week after.